CALIFORNIA STATE HOSPITALS BENCHMARK INFORMATION GLOSSARY OF TERMS

LPS

Refers to the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act. This legislation, enacted in 1968, set up a process whereby civil commitments are subjected to periodic judicial review which attempts to balance individual rights with public safety.

PATIENT POPULATIONS

In-Hospital Population

Includes only those persons who are physically present in the hospital at a given time.

In-Hospital Population Plus Short-Term Leave

Includes persons physically present in the hospital plus those for whom beds are being held during short-term absences.

Inpatient Population

Includes persons physically present in the hospital, those for whom beds are being held during short-term absences, and those who are out to court.

PATIENT MOVEMENTS

Direct Admissions

Includes only those persons who became inpatients during the period. Persons transferred from another state hospital or returning to the hospital from any leave status are not considered direct admissions.

Direct Discharges

Includes only patients who were in the hospital or on leave at the time of discharge. Persons transferred to another state hospital are not considered direct discharges.

LENGTH OF STAY

Days

This counts the number of in-hospital days each client spends in the hospital after being admitted.

Mean Discharge Length of Stay (LOS)

At the time of discharge, this is the average number of in-hospital days each patient spent in the hospital from which he or she was discharged.

FUNDING SOURCE

County Billable

Refers to clients for which a county is fiscally responsible, most of whom have been committed through the civil commitment process or are voluntarily admissions.

Non-Billable

Refers to clients for which a county is not fiscally responsible, usually those committed after criminal proceedings.

DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORIES

These categories reflect the classification structure presented in the Table of Contents of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th ed. (DSM-IV).

LEGAL CLASSES

Conservatees

Persons involuntarily committed for mental health treatment after having been found to be gravely and persistently disabled or dangerous (to themselves or others) as a result of a mental illness.

Voluntary LPS

Persons who voluntarily commit themselves to mental health treatment institutions at county expense.

Other Involuntary LPS

Persons involuntarily committed for mental health treatment evaluation, or after having been found to be gravely disabled or dangerous (to themselves or others) as a result of a mental illness.

Incompetent to Stand Trial (PC 1370)

Persons accused of a crime but found incompetent to stand trial because of a mental disorder who are involuntarily committed for up to three years of treatment or until they are able to cooperate with their own defense.

Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (PC 1026)

Persons found by the court to have committed a criminal act but also found to be not culpable because they were mentally ill (insane) at the time of the crime.

Prisoner from the Department of Corrections (PC 2684)

Persons from the Department of Corrections sent to a Department of Mental Health facility for treatment of a mental disorder and who are expected to be returned to the Department of Corrections.

Mentally Disordered Offenders

PC 2960 - Prisoners from the Department of Corrections sent to a state hospital as a condition of their parole for treatment of their mental disorder.

PC 2970 - Prisoners whose mental illness failed to clear up before the end of their parole and were transferred to the civil commitment process.

Other Non-LPS

All other patients whose mental health treatment resulted from involvement with the criminal justice system.